

Southeast News

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOLUME 23

FEBRUARY 1974

NUMBER 1

H. Paul Beaird Dies

After several weeks in the hospital, Mr. Paul Beaird died December 31, 1973. He is survived by Mary, his wife, Margaret, his daughter, a brother, a sister and several nieces and nephews.

For forty-two years, Mr. Beaird served as secretary and financial secretary of the East Alabama Association. He always had the minutes printed and published. He knew all of the churches in the Association and most of the members of those churches.

During most of this time he had represented that Association on the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention, later the Southeast Conference.

At the time of his death, he was also the treasurer of the Lanett Church.

He was a leading business man in Lanett, serving as a public accountant in that city.

His quiet presence will be felt by those who served with him in business or in church life, even though his physical presence is no longer with us. Always eager to advance the cause of Christ, he gave of his time, energy, and money to make possible the church and the kingdom of God on earth.

Funeral services were held at the Lanett Church, January 2, 1974, by the pastor, Harold N. Auler, Jr., two former pastors, Joe A. French and W. Walter Hall, and by W. J. Andes, Southeast Conference Minister. The organist, Miss Pacita Harry, played hymns of faith to give strength and hope to those who mourned.

Bonanza Has Groundbreaking

Bonanza United Church of Christ, which has been using a house chapel in the Bonanza development south of Atlanta, had its ground breaking ceremony on Sunday, December 16, at 3:00 p. m. The ceremony was held on the church property just south of Bonanza on Highway 41-19. Although the temperature was quite cold, a large crowd gathered and participated, when a spadeful of dirt was dug by representatives of the various organizations of the church, led by the pastor, L Floyd Carmack.

A contract for the new sanctuary has been let at a cost of \$280,000 and work has

Christmas Dinner Shared By Ministers And Wives



Ministers and wives of the East Alabama Association gathered for their Christmas dinner Dec. 7, 1973, at Tara Restaurant, Roanoke, Alabama. Rev. Joe French, moderator of the East Ala. Association, presided while others shared experiences, sang carols and enjoyed the fellowship. A total of 55 attended.

Included in the group were 6 lay ministers and their wives, who are beginning training in this new program. Left to right in the picture they are: Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hodnett and Mr. and Mrs. Bentley Thompson from Oak Grove Church; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lauderdale and Mr. and Mrs. Gwen Holly from the Lanett Church; Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Morris from Hillside Church, LaGrange.

1974 Southeast Conference Annual Meeting, June 8-9

The 1974 Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference is scheduled for the weekend of June 8 and 9. It will be held on the campus of Talladega College, Talladega, Alabama, and will involve the local United Church of Christ adjacent to the campus.

It is possible that the "energy crisis" may require some adjustments as to time. The churches will be informed promptly of any changes.

Color film, "Friends in Deed" is available from the Conference office.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING — SHARE OUR SUBSTANCE OFFERING— MARCH 24, 1974

begun. The new building is expected to be finished this fall.

Warren Blankenhorn, Area Minister



January 1, 1974, came and Warren A. Blankenhorn began work as area minister of Southern Alabama. He will be ministering in three associations: East Alabama, Central Alabama, and South Alabama-Northwest Florida. He will have responsibilities in churches of other associations as given by those associations through the Southeast Conference. He will have a variety of functions and ministries across the conference.

Living in Phenix City, Alabama, he will be located near to the center of the 55 churches in the Southern Alabama Area. His address is: P. O. Box 773, Phenix City, Alabama 36867. His telephone number is: 1 205-297-8163.

For the past 6 years, Warren and Evelyn Blankenhorn have been serving the Oak Grove Church near Pine Mountain, Ga. Previously he had served Dadeville, Elder and the Roanoke, New Hope Churches as a yoked parish; Ambrose, Georgia; Andalusia, Antioch Church, where he met and later married Evelyn Adams in 1958; and

(Continued on Page 6)

Oak Grove Reports Christian Concern In Annual Meeting

Our Pine Mountain, Oak Grove Church, with a membership of 104 (YB) serves the community needs as well as its own membership.

At the annual meeting, August 27, 1973, some of the interesting things reported were

- 1. A new water line from the church well to the parsonage has been installed.
- 2. Members of the adult class pledged \$1.00 per week to be sent to Miss Judy Crozier in India, daughter of John Crozier.
- 3. A benefit supper was held January 13 for a four-year-old boy, victim of leukemia. A total of \$668 was given to the mother of the family, not a member of Oak Grove Church, and not known.
- 4. Another such supper was held April 7th for another leukemia victim. Emory University matched these funds, so the contribution was \$1,202.
- 5. Another benefit supper was held September 24 for a family in Pine Mountain who lost their home by fire. \$750 was given for their needs.
- 6. The year's largest single "outreach" project was the Arts and Crafts Fair, August 18-19.
- 7. The visit of John and Emily Crozier brought forth much interest in their work. The Men's Fellowship is buying a new diamond bit for the well drill sent some years back. The Young Adult Class has adopted five Indian children at one of John's schools.
- 8, The Committee of Christian Concern contributed \$2159, not included in budget. Also not in the budget were \$300 for food for India; \$83.15 for Elon Home for Children; \$629 from Men's Fellowship for building fund.
- 9. A new adult class with the minister as teacher is studying "Life and Teaching of Jesus" by James Stewart.
- 10. Bible school held June 11-17, with average attendance of 25.
- 11. Plans by the Men's Fellowship to clear property in front of church to build a barbecue pit, tables, benches, etc.
- 12. Women's Fellowship has sent flowers and cards to the sick, baby gifts to young mothers, helped families concerned with illness and bereavement, bought cleaning supplies for the church, and taken fruit baskets to shut-ins at Christmas.
- 13. The youth group hosted one weekend mini-camp at Roosevelt Park and participated in the one at Ft. Walton Beach, Florida.
- 14. The Junior Youth take turns lighting the altar candles every Sunday and clean up when church service is over.

Note From Administrator Strunk Of Uplands

The Executive Committee of Uplands, Inc., in session Friday, December 14, approved the suggestion of the Executive Director, Lawrence N. Strunk, to apply for license to increase the bed capacity for Wharton from 52 to 62 beds. These beds will be added to existing rooms, originally built to accommodate two persons. The plan is to add the beds, two at a time, as the rooms become vacant. This could take as long as a year.

In releasing this statement, Mr. Strunk explained: "First we must get state approval, then buy the beds and room accessories and be assured of delivery. This is a time-consuming project. However, Wharton Home has been filled to capacity since August, and we have a waiting list. This fact, together with the general Long Range Plan to provide health care facilities for our growing retirement community, was the reason for my suggestion."

Of interest are three additional actions. The Community Relations Committee was given the list of suggestions from the recent retirees meeting held by the director. Among these were an alarm system for Van Dyke Village and dusk-to-dawn lights to be installed, and a new look at transportation to and from shopping areas of our country.

The Finance Committee was asked to study and make a solid recommendation concerning an Annuity Program for persons who may want to contribute to Uplands, but need the assurance of lifetime income. The Personnel Committee was asked to study a Retirement Fund Program for the workers.

ITEMS FROM C. C. CHURCH, LANETT, ALA.

There have been many comments about the Christmas vesper service by candlelight. It was a beautiful service. The singing was beautiful and the narration and the live scenes depicted made a setting that was an inspiration to all.

Following the service eight persons were blessed by the joy of singing in the homes of some shut-ins.

The Lanett Church sent Elon Children's between many coupons and Back Bay Mission 9 boxes of clothing. In the Biloxi, Miss., area there has been a desperate need for clothing. The fishing industry has suffered severely from the 1973 floods that affected the coastal fishing areas. For some incomes have totaled \$64.00 for a month, and this was the case for a family of eight!

Jan. 2, 1974 funeral services were held at the church for our beloved member, Paul Beaird, who was taken from this life on Monday, Dec. 31. His mortal remains were interred in the New Hope Church cemetery.

The youth of the Lanett, Todd, and Langdale churches sang "Tell It Like It Is" at Hillside Congregational Church in LaGrange, Ga., on January 13, 1974.

ITEMS FROM OTHER CHURCHES

Rev. and Mrs. James Smith moved their mobile home from LaGrange College to Jones Chapel Church, near Woodbury, Ga. They are now living on the church property while he is a student at LaGrange

Huntsville United Church Has MEALS ON WHEELS

Thanks to our faithful volunteers who have participated in Meals on Wheels of H. O. P. E. (Huntsville Opportunity Program for the Elderly). Everyone involved in this important community service has been richly rewarded by the warm response and appreciation of those who receive the hot meals at home.

We are grateful to Peggy Babunovic, Sara Green, Elvira Brown, Betty Rogers, Sharon Youngkin, Christy Giese, and Marjorie McSwain, who are currently involved. We regret that Babe Halliburton, Dianna Ormond and Phyliss Schultz have moved from the city. And we appreciate the former help of Beverly Lynnch and Dawn Hurley, who are now delightfully employed in caring for their new babies.

College and serves as minister of the Jones Chapel Church. Diane, his wife, not only works in a kindergarten school in the community, but also directs the choir at the Jones Chapel Church.

The Jones Chapel Church is in the process of transferring its membership from the Georgia-South Carolina Association to the East Alabama Association. Separated by long distances from the churches in the Ga.-S. C. Association, the church will be 30 to 45 minutes from more than half of the East Alabama Association. Already the church is participating in events in the East Ala. Association.

Rev. and Mrs. Gifford Towle of India spoke in the following churches in December: Demorest, Duncan's Creek at Dacula, Ga., Macedonia Church at Braselton, Ga., Central and Rush Memorial Churches in Atlanta, Bonanza Church in Jonesboro, Ga.

BIBLE STUDY DURING LENT

Has your church used "God's Word in Our World", eight Bible study sessions given in "Laity Resources" for the program year 1973-74? If not, Lent (running from February 27 to Easter, April 14, 1974) would be a good time to do so.

Each contains an article from A. D., our denominational magazine, based on the presentation of a particular passage of scripture in terms of its meaning for life today. Then there are worksheets (including questions for discussion) which may be duplicated by someone in your church or ordered in quantity so each person can have a copy.

If you do not have "Laity Resources for 1973-74" (three packets for \$5.00) the set of 8 Bible study sessions (God's Word in Our World") may be ordered from Central Distribution Service, Box 7286, St. Louis, Mo. 63177, for 75c. This Bible study could be sponsored by the men's and-or women's organization in your church for use on Sunday or Wednesday evenings. A different leader could be chosen for each session.

Mrs. F. C. Lester, Lay Life & Work

SE Conference To Embark On 17-76 Drive This Spring

PRIMARY GOAL — \$70,461 CHALLENGED GOAL — \$89,455

These are the goals established by the Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ which this spring will initiate its participation in the 17-76 Achievement Fund.

The 17-76 Fund is a national campaign of the United Church of Christ to raise \$17,000,000 by 1976.

Purpose is to aid six southern colleges which are related to the UCC through the American Missionary Association and some of the Board for World Ministries educational projects overseas.

The overall purpose of the fund is to provide concrete ways to deal with the problem of racial injustice, both in the United States and abroad, through educational facilities.

Cole Lectures To Be April 16-17

Dr. Robert M. Cole, research psychiatrist, Harvard University Health Service, will deliver the Cole Lectures for 1974, April 16-17, at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

Andalusia, Antioch Has 100th Anniversary





Antioch C. C. Church, Andalusia, Ala., celebrated her centennial November 10-11, 1973, beginning with a Saturday morning breakfast. Rev. and Mrs. Harold Auler showed slides and spoke of their missionary life. Other visitors and speakers were Rev. Warren Blankenhorn, area minister; Rev. W. J. Andes, conference minister; Rev. Joe Brown of Florida; Rev. Andy Anderson, former

pastor; all introduced by the pastor, Rev. W. A. Tart.

The Sunday morning sermon was given by the conference minister, who spoke about the followers of Christ moving out to meet the needs of our fellowmen. Mrs. Virgie Adams was asked to stand as the oldest member. Thirteen pastors have gone into the ministry from this church.

Jan. 15, 1974 — A Day Of Honor To Martin Luther King, Jr.

As the Atlanta Constitution expressed it editorially, "Today we honor a man who, by eloquence and example, changed a nation." His career as a leader of a nonviolent civil rights revolution is familiar to millions, not only in America but all over the world. When he was slain by an assassin, he had convinced the great majority of Americans and their government that ancient wrongs must be righted. He lived to see many rigid barriers broken down.

Atlanta, Dr. King's native city, has just inaugurated her first black mayor, the Honorable Maynard Jackson. Georgia has recently elected its first black congressman in many years, the Honorable Andrew J. Young, from the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia.

A fund drive for the proposed \$10 million Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change was launched in Atlanta. Mrs.

MINISTER'S WIDOW WRITES

In a letter from one who served with her husband in the ministry, but now is living alone since her husband's death, are these words:

"I hope and pray that this finds you all well and enjoying the holiday season of the year. I want to thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness of me at this season. I received the Christmas check from the Pension Boards and also two boxes from Union Congregational Christian Church in Brooklyn, N. Y. I am writing them a letter of thanks and appreciation for their gifts of love. All of this makes me feel humble and grateful.

We have called a pastor. We love him and his family. We are working hard to get the church moving. The Lord is really blessing us.

Your Sister in Christ, (A. C. W.)

Coretta King, his wife, spoke of the center as "a lasting, living effort to bring about nonviolent social change, to free our society from poverty, from racial discrimination, from violence and hate."

HERE ARE FACTS ABOUT 17-76

What is the 17-76 Achievement Fund?

A fund for emergency and long-term needs of the six predominantly black colleges related to the UCC through the American Missionary Association, and for overseas educational projects of our Board for World Ministries.

What is the purpose of the campaign?

To address racial injustice at home and overseas by providing education for minority and oppressed groups.

What is the national money goal?

\$13,000,000 as a primary goal;

\$17,000,000 as a challenge goal.

How will the money be raised?

A national campaign committee will encourage, solicit, and support campaigns in every UCC Conference. A canvass in every congregation will seek three-year individual pledges.

When does the campaign begin in the SE Conference?

May 1, 1974.

How will local churches participate?

At the time of its conference campaign, each local church will be asked to form a campaign committee to conduct the canvass for three-year pledges. Each church will be invited to accept a self-allocated goal in consultation with the area counselor. Offerings and budgetary allocations are discouraged.

What are the sources of information about the campaign?

The National Campaign Committee is at Room 801, 276 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. 10010. Requests may be directed there and to your conference office. Each local church will receive material for interpretation, including a 20-minute film.

What is needed for success?

The two million members of the UCC have the resources to give \$17 million. The goal was set after a survey involving 55 consultations across the nation. The generous response of each member of each local church will be needed to achieve our challenge.

From Last Issue Of Florida News!

"Recently a church had this note in its paper: 'This is a chain letter. Simply send a copy of this letter to six other churches who are tired of their ministers. Then, bundle up your pastor and send him to the church at the top of the list. Add your name to the bottom of the list. In one week, you will receive 16,436 ministers and one of them should be a dandy. Have faith in this letter. Don't break the chain, one church broke the chain and got their old minister back.' "

HERE ARE FACTS South Alabama Council Elects New Officers



On January 12, 1974, the Southern Alabama Area Council met, discussed the financial needs and the work of an area minister. Unanimously, they elected Warren A. Blankenhorn area minister for Southern Alabama Area. He will be meeting with pastors and churches, committees of the associations, planning programs for the entire area with those involved, and working out across the entire Southeast Conference as the needs arise.

Officers elected (L to R in picture above) are:

Moderator — Rev. David Chandler, LaGrange, Ga.

Secretary — Miss Dora Brackin. Headland, Ala.

Vice-Moderator — Rev. Tom Medders, Tallassee, Ala.



The countil planned the itinerary for Rev. and Mrs. John Crozier for January 27-February 2, 1974, sought ten people to be trained as consultants in the **Strengthening** the Local Church project, and encouraged the Lay Ministry program.

It was suggested that the installation service for Warren Blankenhorn as area minister be held March 30, 1974, at Oak Grove Church, Pine Mountain, Ga.

The mini camp for Southern Alabama Youth will be held at Camp Grandview, near Prattville, Ala., April 5-7, 1974.

The Area Council meets again April 30, 1974, in Montgomery, Ala.

Among those attending the Jan. 12 meeting in Montgomery were (L to R in picture): Warren Blankenhorn, Winston Nobles, Otto Culpepper, Marvin Brand, Odell Yancey, and W. J. Andes. Attendance, 20 people.

New Indian Publication

The Council for American Indian Ministry of the United Church of Christ has just published the first issue of a quarterly, the CAIM Newsletter. Copies are available free upon request to persons who wish to keep informed about the work of the Council, not only in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, where our Indian churches are located, but also in other parts of the country where the Council supports a variety of projects.

For your free subscription to the CAIM Newsletter, write:

Council for American Indian Ministry 2021/2 North Third Street

Bismark, North Dakota 58501

From "Keeping You Posted"

The draft law is still in effect even though there are no calls for military service at the present time. The law still requires that young men register at 18 years of age or face five years in jail and-or \$10,000 fine.

Young men who are conscientiously opposed to war and killing should make this known when they register and they should also register with Mr. Russell G. Claussen at the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries at 297 Park Avenue South, N. Y. 10010.

MASTER MUSICIAN

Are you just marking time in your life's symphony?

Are you quite out of line with its harmony?
Do the clouds in your life o'ershadow the sun?

So you seem overburdened and completely undone?

Just remember a pause gives effect to the soul.

The beautiful life is one tuned day by day Through the changes of fate, though hard be the way.

God tempers the soul that He loves and can

All suffering and hardship He'll graciously

Into something of beauty, of peace and of strength,

That soul-stirring music be brought forth at length.

We'll be able to play in life's great sym-

Each instrument vibrant with melody, When tuned by the touch of the Master Mu-

Releasing and yielding life's greatest ambition.

O Master Musician, just tune up my life 'Til I'm sweetened and strengthened and freed from all strife.

Just temper my spirit, and use even me — That I may fit into life's great symphony.

-E. A. Ballou Pleasant Hill

Claire Nelson Chairs New Instrumentality

Mrs. Wilys Claire Nelson of New Brighton, Minn., has been elected chair-person of the new national Office of Church Life and Leadership of the United Church of Christ.

A leading laywoman of the two-million-member United Church, Mrs. Nelson presently serves as secretary of the denomination's Council for Lay Life and Work.

The Office of Church Life and Leadership was established in June 1973 by the Ninth General Synod, the representative body of the United Church. It is expected to take over at the end of June the functions of five national organizations now concerned with development of both lay and clergy leadership. They include the Council for Lay Life and Work, Council for Church and Ministry, Committee on Theological Education, Commission on Worship and Theological Commission.

Elected to the steering committee were the Rev. John E. Biersdorf, director of the Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., the Rev. Luther Holland, pastor of the Church of Christian Fellowship, Los Angeles, Jerry W. Paul, a student at Eden Theological Seminary, Webster Groves, Mo., and Mrs. Bonnie Ploeger, a parliamentary management consultant of Redwood City, Cal.

Farrar Takes Development Post

The Rev. Lyman G. Farrar is the new vice-president for Development at Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, Pa.

The Rev. Mr. Farrar was formerly cc-pastor of the Center Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Manchester, Conn.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

Second-Class Postage Paid at Atlanta, Georgia 30329

Published monthly October and November; February to July, inclusive; bi-monthly August-September and December-January, by and for the churches of the

SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

The United Church of Christ 2684 Clairmont Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 30329 Telephone: 404:633-5655

Subscription Rate \$1.00 Per Year
Printed by The Roanoke Leader

Printed by The Roanoke Leader Roanoke, Alabama

Vol. 23 February 1974 No. 1
POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to
P. O. Box 29883, Atlanta, Ga. 30329

Georgia Interchurch Association Executive Board Meets



The Executive Board of Georgia Interchurch Association, in recent regular session, elected officers for 1974: the Right Reverend Milton L. Wood (Episcopal), president; Bishop Richard Allen Hildebrand (African Methodist Episcopal), vice-president; the Reverend Harry W. Shipps (Episcopal), secretary; and the Reverend W. J. Andes (United Church of Christ), treasurer.

In the recent meeting, the Executive Board engaged in intensive process planning with the assistance of the Reverend Nathan H. VanderWerf, Executive Director of the Commission on Regional and Local Ecumenism, New York.

The Reverend Jackson P. Braddy, coordinator of GIA, explained that the organization is "the channel of official

communication and cooperation among and between the church bodies." The membership of the organization is composed of fourteen denominational bodies in the state.

The Georgia Interchurch Association also acts as the recognized state ecumenical organization, which responds to requests for information from a large variety of sources and is the transmission point for communications from about 95 national and regional organizations.

Although the organization is governed by a limited number of persons representing the denominational bodies on the Executive Board, its Task Force activity provides for participation by the wider leadership, clergy, and laity of the church and by representatives of other agencies in the civic and governmental community.

Board For World Ministries Meets In New York

The United Church Board for World Ministries, meeting November 14 in New York, elected Mrs. Leroy V. Walcott of Grand Rapids, Mich., president, and re-elected Mrs. Harold L. Miller, Aurora, Oregon vice-president of the Board. Executive officers re-elected are Rev. David M. Stowe, ex. vice-president, and Rev. Myles H. Walburn, treasurer. The 225-member corporate board members were re-elected for four-year terms. The Board supports missionaries in 30 countries around the world.

The Board had in attendance 19 United Church of Christ theological students.

Organized into a Council of Theological Students for the overseas mission board, the young people presented a series of resolutions calling for basic changes in board policy. Most significant was a proposal that representatives of Christian churches in areas of the world to which the Board sends missionaries and money should become voting members of the Board. The Board agreed to study the plan

and place it on the agenda for the 1974 meeting.

Another resolution proposed, and adopted by the Board stressed redirection of the agency's funds "toward activities which are concerned with human liberation and self-determination."

Along with Japanese theologian and economist Masao Takenaka, they told the Board that "the new frontier of Christian mission in our time is to demand justice and humanity for the poor and distressed." They asked the Board to "continue to re-examine the present allocation of overseas funds and determine whether increased percentages could be directed to such programs."

A third proposal called for increased exchange of students between U. S. and foreign theological seminaries. The Board agreed to "seek means and if necessary allocate funds" for a seminarian exchange program. One of the seminarians, Ms. Carolyn Deckenback, was named to sit with the Board of Directors 50-member governing body.

The Board approved a resolution expressing "solidarity and support for the people of Guinea-Bissau."

PLAN FOR FAMILY THANK OFFERING

In many of our churches the Women's Fellowship sponsors the "Family Thank Offering." This is the time of year when the 1974 materials should be given to each family in your church, if that has not already been done.

"With Heart — With Mind," the booklet which describes the projects to which the money will go this year, is available free, in quantities so you can get a copy to give each family. Monthly bulletin inserts are also free. F. T. O. boxes are 5c each or labels to put around soft drink cans are 3c. All these materials may be ordered from Central Distribution Service, Box 7286, St. Louis, Mo. 63177.

Information about the project to be emphasized each month may be lifted up by a lay person as a "Moment of Concern" in the Sunday School or church worship service.

Watch For Spring Stewardship Packet

By the end of January local congregations should receive the SPRING 1974 Stewardship PACKET and the materials for the OGH-SOS offering from the Stewardship Council, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102. Notify the Stewardship Council immediately if these important items aren't received.

The Spring 1974 Stewardship Packet includes a brand-new revision of the Guide for the Christian Enlistment.

News From St. John's, Cullman, Ala.

At their Sunday morning service, on November 25th, an offering was received for the American Indian Fund for \$159.00.

HEADSTART has vacated St. John's buildings after 8 years. They have taken up residence in Janeway Hall on the Cullman College campus.

Laurie New Conference Minister

The Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ elected the Rev. William K. Laurie, Kent, Ohio, its president at a special conference meeting at First Congregational United Church of Christ here today.

With 556 churches and 197,000 members, the Ohio Conference represents about ten percent of the United Church of Christ.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACTIONS

- 1. Was jam packed largely because of the unfinished business referred to the Executive Council by the General Synod.
- 2. Took action regarding human sexuality and ordination, the Middle East, involuntary sterilization and corruption in government.
- 3. Heard a report that all issues of non-inclusive language in other than the scriptural material and hymns in the new hymnal have been eliminated.
- 4. Requested the Board for Homeland Ministrics to establish a task force on Christian Life Style and Ecology.
- 5. Requested the Council of Instrumentality Executives to design a data gathering instrument for reporting employment practices, including breakdown by income bracket, age, race, and
- 6. Appointed Franklin Thomas, vice-moderator of Southeast Conference, to the Board of Directors of the Office for Church Life and Leadership. Milton Hurst, from Talladega, was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Center for Social Action.
- 7. Approved the dates of June 27 to July 1, 1975, for the Tenth General Synod in Minneapolis.
 - 8. Adopted the payment schedules:

Priorities	\$735,000
Executive Council	600,000
Contributions	100,000
Com. on Theological	
Education	240,000
World Ministries	2,120,000
Homeland Ministries	1,765,000
United Church Herald	200,000
Pension Board	875,000
Christian Social Action	205,000
Office for Church Life and	
Leadership	485,000
Stewardship Council	800,000
Office of Communication	275,000
Commission for Racial	
Justice	600,000

\$9,000,000
9. Discussed the respective roles of the national agencies and the conferences.

10. Supported the 10-day visit of President Robert V. Moss, Louise M. Wallace, Theodore S. Ledbetter, and Scott S. Libbey to the Evangelical Church in the Union in the German Democratic Republic.

Our sympathy to Dr. John H. Bridges, whose mother died November 23, 1973 at Ormond Beach, Florida.

Where Will The Money Come From?

The annual 1974 and 1975 budgets for the national Basic Support of Our Christian World Mission were adopted by the Ninth General Synod of the United Church of Christ on June 26, 1973. Including \$775,000 for priorities as determined by the Synod, the budget for all national agencies of the denomination totals \$9,500,000. The question is: Where will the money come from?

The answer, of course, is that the money can come from only one source — the members and congregations of the United Church of Christ.

In order to help raise the needed funds, General Synod has requested each local church to plan and conduct:

- —A thorough-going program aimed toward educating its members in a refreshed understanding of stewardship and of the local and wider mission of the church
- —A well-organized process to challenge each member or family to give for the total mission of the church at least \$1.00 per week for each \$1,000 of annual income.

To help you understand how the needed money will be budgeted, the Stewardship Council has recently published a folder, 1974-1975 Budget. A sample copy has been sent to each congregation. Additional copies for distribution to members are available free from the Stewardship Council.

WARREN BLANKENHORN (From Page 1)

Phenix City, Russell Woods Church. He began his ministry in 1955.

Following his training in marketing and salesmanship at George Peabody College in Nashville, he had additional courses in the University of Tennessee Extension School and Falls Business College in Nashville, Tennessee, and in South Georgia College at Douglas, Ga. Then came 10 years in the sales field.

Before going to Oak Grove Church, he was the assistant to the executive director of Goodwill Industries at Columbus, Ga. During this time he served the Elder Church again at Dadeville.

Warren Blankenhorn is a native of Tennessee, having been born on July 6, 1924, at Old Hickory, Tenn. During his early years he was a member of the Brookmeade Church in Nashville and helped in the building of the sanctuary which recently burned.

We in the Southeast Conference welcome Warren and Evelyn to this new ministry.